UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/C.5/50/27
14 November 1995

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fiftieth session
FIFTH COMMITTEE
Agenda items 115 and 116

PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1994-1995

PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1996-1997

International Commission of Inquiry in Rwanda

Revised estimates under section 3, Peace-keeping operations and special missions; section 32, Staff assessment, and income section 1, Income from staff assessment

I. INTRODUCTION

1. In its resolution 1011 (1995) of 16 August 1995, the Security Council, inter alia, requested the Secretary-General to make recommendations, as soon as possible, on the establishment of a commission mandated to conduct a full investigation to address allegations of arms flows to former Rwandan government forces in the Great Lakes region of Central Africa.

2. In its resolution 1013 (1995) of 7 September 1995, the Security Council requested the Secretary-General to establish, as a matter of urgency, an International Commission of Inquiry, with the following mandate:

(a) To collect information and investigate reports relating to the sale or supply of arms and related matériel to former Rwandan government forces in the Great Lakes region in violation of Council resolutions 918 (1994) of 17 May 1994, 997 (1995) of 9 June 1995 and 1011 (1995);

(b) To investigate allegations that such forces were receiving military training in order to destabilize Rwanda;

(c) To identify parties aiding and abetting the illegal acquisition of arms by former Rwandan government forces, contrary to the Council resolutions referred to above;

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(d) To recommend measures to end the illegal flow of arms in the subregion in violation of the Council resolutions referred to above.

3. The Security Council further recommended that the Commission be appointed by the Secretary-General and be composed of 5 to 10 impartial and internationally respected persons, including legal, military and police experts, under the chairmanship of an eminent person, and assisted by the appropriate support staff. In the same resolution, the Council also requested the Secretary-General to report to the Council on the establishment of the Commission, and further requested him to submit, within three months from its establishment, an interim report on the conclusions of the Commission and, as soon as possible thereafter, to submit a final report containing its recommendations.

4. In his letter dated 16 October 1995 addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/1995/879), the Secretary-General informed the Council, inter alia, that arrangements for the establishment of the Commission, consisting of six members, including the Chairman of the Commission, had been completed. Subsequently, on 26 October, in order to ensure that the Commission became operational without delay, the Secretary-General requested the concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to enter into commitments in 1995, not exceeding $424,400 gross (or $397,300 net of staff assessment), under paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution 48/229 of 23 December 1993 to meet the cost, from 1 November to 31 December 1995, of the establishment of the Commission, including an appropriate provision of support staff and operational costs.

5. On 31 October 1995, the Advisory Committee concurred with that request on the understanding that the budget of the Commission would be presented to the General Assembly, through the Advisory Committee, before 20 December 1995; and that the total cost of the Commission as well as the level of support being obtained from other missions should be indicated.

II. BUDGET OF THE COMMISSION

A. Composition of the Commission

6. As recommended by the Security Council, the Commission will be composed of six impartial and internationally respected persons, including legal, military and police experts. The Chairman of the Commission will be a United Nations staff member, appointed by the Secretary-General at the D-2 level. The other five members will be made available by Governments, on a non-reimbursable basis, to carry out the activities requested by the Security Council. Their salaries will be paid by the respective Governments concerned. Travel and subsistence allowance in the area of operation would be borne by the United Nations.

7. The Commission will be supported by one Military Observer, eight international staff (one P-4, two P-3, one P-2, one General Service and three Security Officers) and six Local Level staff. The functions of the United Nations staff are as indicated below.

(a) Political Affairs Officer (P-4). Under the supervision of the Chairman of the Commission, the staff member will be responsible for assessing and analysing the political developments in the region that might affect the work of the Commission; preparing relevant briefs and background information for members of the Commission; participating in the preparation of meetings; and interacting with regional institutions, as required;

(b) Security Coordinator (P-3). The Security Coordinator will be responsible for the security and safety of United Nations personnel and property assigned to the Commission, including the preparation and implementation of a security plan; assessment of local security conditions; establishment of modalities for reporting security information; and liaison with local authorities. The Security Coordinator will also conduct training and set up a financial plan for security purposes;

(c) Administrative Officer (P-3). Under the supervision of the Chairman of the Commission and in accordance with established policies and procedures, the Administrative Officer will be responsible for providing effective administrative, financial and logistics support services to the Commission. Responsibilities also include liaison with other United Nations organizations, missions and agencies on matters of mutual interest and concern;

(d) Legal Officer (P-2). Under the supervision of the Chairman of the Commission, the Legal Officer will be responsible for providing legal advice, conducting legal research and analysing issues that could affect decisions regarding the discharge of the mandate of the Commission, the interpretation of applicable rules of law, applicable General Assembly resolutions and other decisions, regulations, rules, procedures and practices of the United Nations. In the performance of these functions, the Legal Officer will coordinate closely with the Legal Counsel;

(e) Security Officers. Under the supervision of the Security Coordinator, three Security and Safety Officers will be responsible for monitoring and ensuring the security and safety of United Nations personnel and premises;

(f) One international General Service staff member, who will provide the necessary support to the Commission;

(g) Local Level staff include two who will act as interpreters, one driver, two clerks, and one cleaning person.

8. The Commission will operate from Nairobi from where it will conduct its investigations on the allegations of arms flows to former Rwandan government forces in the Great Lakes region of Central Africa.

B. Financial requirements for the period from 1 November 1995 to 30 April 1996

9. The total estimated requirements of the Commission for the six-month period amount to $1,162,000 gross, or $1,080,700 net of staff assessment. These costs are summarized in the table below and detailed in the annex to the present report.

(United States dollars)

	1995	1996	Total
Members of the Commission	44 600	61 700	106 300
Military Observer	8 900	12 300	21 200
Temporary posts	92 800	191 100	283 900
Common staff costs	39 400	81 300	120 700
Mission subsistence allowance	56 900	112 900	169 800
Travel of staff	6 000	12 000	18 000
Premises	3 300	6 600	9 900
Transport operations	13 800	27 300	41 100
Air operations	62 000	124 000	186 000
Communications	20 000	40 000	60 000
Miscellaneous supplies and services	8 000	16 000	24 000
Freight and related costs	6 600	3 400	10 000
Furniture and equipment	29 800	-	29 800
Total (net of staff assessment)	392 100	688 600	1 080 700
Staff assessment	27 100	54 200	81 300
Total	419 200	742 800	1 162 000

10. In addition to the cost indicated in the table above, during the start-up of the Commission, the cost of equipment and furniture transferred from the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR) is estimated at $22,000, consisting of various furniture for two offices, one photocopier, one computer, one shredder and one fax machine. The extent of surplus equipment to be transferred in 1996, however, cannot be determined at this stage and would depend on the Security Council's decision on the future mandate of UNAMIR.

III. CONTINGENCY FUND

11. The Secretary-General is of the view that the activities relating to the Commission are of an extraordinary nature and should be dealt with outside the procedures related to the contingency fund, as provided for in paragraph 11 of annex I to General Assembly resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986.

IV. ACTION BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

A. Requirements for the biennium 1994-1995

12. The additional requirements of $419,200 gross, or $392,100 net of staff assessment, will be reported in the context of the second performance report for the biennium 1994-1995 under General Assembly resolution 48/229 on unforeseen and extraordinary expenditures, in section 4, Peace-keeping operations, of the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995.

B. Requirements for the biennium 1996-1997

13. For the biennium 1996-1997, an additional appropriation of $688,600 would be required under section 3, Peace-keeping operations and special missions, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997. An additional appropriation of $54,200 would also be required under section 32, Staff assessment, offset by the same amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment.

ANNEX

Cost estimates for the International Commission of Inquiry in Rwanda for the period from 1 November 1995 to 30 April 1995

(Thousands of United States dollars)

		1995	1996
1.	Civilian personnel costs		
	(a) Government-provided personnel	44.6	61.7
	Five expert members of the Commission would be provided by Governments on a non-reimbursable basis. The estimates relate to travel and subsistence to be provided by the United Nations. Travel costs are estimated at $2,700 per person and monthly mission allowance, at a daily rate of $102.		
	(b) Military Observer	8.9	12.3
	Provision is made for one Military Observer. Travel and subsistence are estimated at $8,900 for 1995 and $12,300 for 1996.		
	(c) International and local staff	195.1	397.3
	Staffing is based on the following: the Chairman of the Commission would be at the D-2 level, supported by eight international staff (one P-4, two P-3, one P-2, one General Service and three Security Officers) and six Local Level staff. Of the Professional staff, one at the P-4 level would be a Political Affairs Officer; the Administrator and the Security Coordinator (each at the P-3 level) and a Legal Officer (at the P-2 level). Six staff at the Local Level includes two interpreters, one driver, two clerks and one cleaning person.		
	Salaries and common staff costs are estimated at $132,200 and $272,400 for 1995 and 1996 respectively; mission subsistence allowance at $56,900 for 1995 and $112,900 for 1996; and travel within the region, at $6,000 and $12,000 for 1995 and 1996, respectively. Travel to and from the mission area are included under the estimates for salaries and common staff costs.		

		1995	1996
2.	Premises The Commission would be accommodated at the United Nations Office at Nairobi. Provisions under this heading relate to maintenance supplies (estimated at $200 per month), maintenance services (at $200 per month) and utilities (at $1,250 per month).	3.3	6.6
3.	Transport operations Provision is made for the rental of up to four vehicles during the six-month period at a daily rate of $50, or $12,200 for 61 days in 1995 and $24,200 for 121 days in 1996. Petrol, oil and lubricants are estimated at $1,600 and $3,100 for 1995 and 1996, respectively.	13.8	27.3
4.	Air operations Provision is made for rental of one helicopter for transportation in and around Rwanda. The cost of 20 flying hours per months is estimated at $1,550 (all inclusive) per flying hour.	62.0	124.0
5.	Commercial communications Pouch, telex and other communication charges are estimated at $10,000 per month.	20.0	40.0
6.	Other equipment The provisions relate to the purchase of additional furniture and equipment not provided by UNAMIR, such as desks, chairs, a filing cabinet, crypto facsimile machine, computers and printers, typewriter and other miscellaneous equipment.	29.8	-
7.	Miscellaneous services and supplies	8.0	16.0
	(a) Miscellaneous services Provisions are made for hospitality at $1,000 per month and for other miscellaneous services, estimated at $3,000 for 1995 and $6,000 for 1996, respectively.		
	(b) Miscellaneous supplies Miscellaneous supplies would cover the cost of stationery, office supplies and other miscellaneous expenses at a rate of $1,500 per month.		

		1995	1996
8.	Air and surface freight	6.6	3.4
	Freight charges are estimated at $6,600 in 1995 and $3,400 in 1996 and relate to items that may be provided by UNAMIR in support of the Commission.		
	Subtotal	392.1	688.6
9.	Staff assessment	27.1	54.2
	Staff assessment related to posts is estimated at $27,100 in 1995 and $54,200 in 1996.		
	Total	419.2	742.8
10.	Income from staff assessment	(27.1)	(54.2)

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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/C.5/50/28
17 November 1995

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fiftieth session
FIFTH COMMITTEE
Agenda item 116

PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1996-1997

Revised estimates for the International Seabed Authority for 1996

Report of the Secretary-General

A. Background

1. At the conclusion of the final part of its first session, held at Kingston from 7 to 18 August 1995, the Assembly of the International Seabed Authority decided, inter alia, to request the Secretary-General of the United Nations to submit to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session, on behalf of the Authority, a draft budget covering the administrative expenses of the Authority for 1996. The Assembly of the Authority also requested the Secretary-General to convey to the General Assembly the interim arrangements for the secretariat of the Authority in the context of the 1996 budget proposals. The present report is submitted to the General Assembly in response to the requests of the Assembly of the Authority.

2. The General Assembly, in its resolution 48/263 of 28 July 1994, decided to fund the administrative expenses of the International Seabed Authority until the end of the year following the year during which the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea entered into force.

3. The International Seabed Authority is the organization through which States parties to the Convention shall organize and control all activities of exploration for, and exploitation of, the resources of the international seabed Area, particularly with a view to administering the resources of the Area.

4. As the Agreement has not yet entered into force, the administrative expenses of the Authority in 1996 are still to be met through the budget of the United Nations. In addition, the assumption of the Preparatory Commission for

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the International Seabed Authority and for the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea that the Secretary-General of the Authority would be in a position to prepare the budget for 1996 was not realized. The Council, a 36-member executive organ of the Authority, responsible for proposing candidates for the position of the Secretary-General of the Authority, has not yet been established, and thus the election of the Secretary-General has not taken place. Once the Secretary-General of the Authority enters on duty it will be his responsibility to draft the annual budget of the Authority.

5. Since it was not possible to establish the Council and therefore to elect the Secretary-General of the Authority during the third and final part of the first session of the Assembly of the Authority, it was necessary to make certain contingency arrangements, which are described below.

B. Developments during the recently concluded session of the Assembly of the Authority

6. The Assembly of the Authority recognized that the budgetary provisions of the Authority in 1996 were dependent upon the election of the members of the Council of the Authority and the election of the Secretary-General of the Authority from among the candidates to be proposed by the Council. Since neither election had been held, and the Secretary-General of the Authority could be elected at the earliest only during the next session of the Assembly, in March 1996, the Assembly decided to request the Secretary-General of the United Nations to submit to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session, on behalf of the Authority, a draft budget covering the administrative expenses of the Authority for 1996, including the costs of convening and servicing meetings of the Authority as necessary.

7. Under the previous assumption that the Secretary-General of the Authority would be elected during the session of the Assembly of the Authority to be held in February-March 1995 and that the secretariat of the Authority would be in place by 1 October 1995, the Preparatory Commission had recommended, and the Secretary-General had planned to abolish the Kingston Office for the Law of the Sea on 30 September 1995 (see A/C.5/49/25). To cover the gap between 1 October 1995 and the time the secretariat of the Authority was initiated by the Secretary-General of the Authority himself, the Assembly of the Authority decided to request that the staff and facilities currently available to the Kingston Office be continued as the interim secretariat of the Authority as from 1 October 1995. It also authorized the Secretary-General of the United Nations to administer the interim secretariat until the entry on duty of the Secretary-General of the Authority. At the same time, the Assembly authorized the Secretary-General of the United Nations to cover the costs of the interim secretariat until December 1995 from the resources appropriated for the Authority under the regular budget of the United Nations.

C. Programme of work of the various organs of the Authority for 1996

1. The Assembly

8. Pursuant to its agenda, the work of the Assembly in 1996 is expected to include the following matters:

(a) Finalization of the draft Agreement between the Authority and the Government of Jamaica regarding the Headquarters of the Authority (referred to as the Headquarters Agreement);

(b) Finalization of the draft Protocol on Privileges and Immunities of the Authority;

(c) Finalization of the draft Agreement concerning the Relationship between the United Nations and the Authority (referred to as the Relationship Agreement);

(d) Follow-up to the decisions taken by the Preparatory Commission on the implementation of resolution II of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea governing preparatory investment in pioneer activities relating to polymetallic nodules, especially the review of the reports of the registered pioneer investors and the administration and merger of the regime for the pioneer investors with the regime established in part XI of the Convention and the Agreement;

(e) Finalization of the transfer of the property and records of the Preparatory Commission to the Authority;

(f) Approval of the budget for 1997;

(g) Financial organization;

(h) Follow-up to the training programme initiated by the Preparatory Commission;

(i) Organization of the secretariat of the Authority.

2. The Council

9. Pursuant to its draft agenda, the Council's work during 1996 is expected to include the following matters:

(a) Follow-up to the decisions taken by the Preparatory Commission on the implementation of resolution II;

(b) Follow-up to the training programme;

(c) Organization of the secretariat;

(d) Review of the budget for 1997;

(e) Financial organization;

(f) Relationship Agreement;

(g) Preparations for consideration, with a view to adoption, of the rules, regulations and procedures necessary for the conduct of activities in the Area as they progress and of rules, regulations and procedures incorporating applicable standards for the protection and preservation of the marine environment;

(h) Consideration of applications for approval of plans of work, if any.

3. The Finance Committee

10. The work of the Finance Committee in 1996, in accordance with section 9 of the annex to the Agreement, is expected to include:

(a) Drafting financial rules, regulations and procedures of the organs of the Authority and the financial management and internal financial administration of the Authority;

(b) All relevant financial matters, including the review of the proposed budget for 1997 and the financial aspects of the implementation of the programme of work of the secretariat for 1997;

(c) Financial obligations of States parties arising from the implementation of part XI of the Convention and the Agreement as well as the administrative and budgetary implications of proposals and recommendations involving expenditure from the funds of the Authority.

4. The Legal and Technical Commission

11. Pursuant to articles 164 and 165 of the Convention and bearing in mind the terms of the annex to the Agreement (sect. 1, para. 4), the work of the Legal and Technical Commission in 1996 is expected to include:

(a) Reviewing formal written plans of work, if any, and submitting appropriate recommendations to the Council;

(b) Preparatory work for assessment of the environmental implications of activities in the Area;

(c) Preparatory work with a view to formulating and submitting to the Council rules, regulations and procedures necessary for the conduct of activities in the Area as they progress and of rules, regulations and procedures incorporating applicable standards for the protection and preservation of the marine environment;

(d) Background work with a view to reviewing the trends of and the factors affecting supply, demand and prices of materials which may be derived from the Area, bearing in mind the interests of both importing and exporting countries, in particular of the developing States among them;

(e) Background work with a view to examining any situation likely to have adverse effects on the economies or export earnings of developing countries resulting from seabed production.

12. The Assembly of the Authority has requested two sessions of the Authority in 1996, one in March 1996 of up to three weeks' duration, if necessary, and the other in August 1996 of up to two weeks' duration. Bearing in mind the principle of cost-effectiveness and expediency, it is assumed that the sessions of the Assembly and, after their establishment, of the Council, the Finance Committee and the Legal and Technical Commission will be held concurrently at Kingston.

5. The secretariat

Parliamentary services

13. The secretariat would provide substantive and administrative servicing of the meetings of the organs of the Authority. Substantive servicing would include preparation of background information papers, working papers, negotiating texts, reports on the sessions and final versions of documents, as well as providing assistance for the efficient conduct of meetings and information, advice and assistance on substantive matters to the bureaus of the respective organs and delegations. Administrative servicing of meetings would include organizing and administering temporary personnel for meetings; travel of meeting-related staff; rental and maintenance of conference facilities and additional office space during meetings; acquisition, rental, maintenance and operation of conference-related equipment; local transportation; communications; freight; supplies and materials including documentation, etc. It is reasonable to expect that for the March 1996 session of the Authority, the interim secretariat of the Authority would require substantial support from the United Nations Secretariat.

Conference services

14. Conference servicing, which includes planning and coordination of meetings, interpretation, translation, documents control, processing and delivery, would be the responsibility of the secretariat of the Authority. However, for the time being, until the Secretary-General of the Authority is elected and the secretariat established, the Office of Conference and Support Services of the United Nations Secretariat would provide such conference servicing, and the programme of work for the two sessions of the Authority in 1996 would be accommodated within the framework of the overall calendar of conferences of the United Nations for the biennium 1996-1997.

Administrative support services

15. During the start-up period, one of the major areas of work of the secretariat would be to put in place procedures and systems of financial management and internal administration and institutional arrangements. These include procedures and systems of budgeting and financial control, including accounting and internal auditing; financial administration, including treasury and payroll matters; personnel recruitment, administration and management; and general administration, including purchases and procurement, transportation, printing and reproduction and security matters. The adaptation and preparation of draft rules, regulations and procedures concerning the internal administration and financial management, including staff regulations and rules and finance manual, as well as the preparation of a plan or strategy for the medium term, the programme of work for 1997 within the framework of that plan and the budgetary estimates to implement that programme of work in 1977 constitute important parts of the work in this area.

Information services

16. Establishment of an information system and of library services would be essential activities in the start-up period in 1996. The existing information system and the library of the Kingston Office for the Law of the Sea could be utilized. However, these have to be adapted and built upon for the specific purposes of the Authority itself. Information activities involve a number of steps, including identifying and monitoring information sources, collecting and processing raw data for the specific purposes, inputting processed data, and retrieving and custom-tailoring outputs from the system. Similarly, library services involve a number of steps, including acquisition of relevant publications, cataloguing and organizing acquisitions, and referencing and retrieving library holdings.

17. In addition to the activities described above, the secretariat of the Authority would be called upon to perform in 1996 two other categories of activities, relating to published material and coordination, harmonization and liaison.

Published material

18. With respect to published material, it is understood that the secretariat of the Authority would publish two brochures in 1996 - one on the Authority itself and the other on the status of seabed mining activities.

Coordination, harmonization and liaison

19. With respect to coordination, harmonization and liaison, it is essential for the secretariat of the Authority to initiate in 1996 the process of coordination and liaison with organizations of the United Nations system, other international organizations and non-governmental organizations in respect of deep seabed mining, science and technology for the deep seabed and the environmental issues related to the deep seabed.

20. As to the interim secretariat, it would be responsible for the substantive and administrative servicing of the March 1996 session of the Assembly. In addition, it would initiate some of the preparatory work so that the organizational matters can be dealt with efficiently in the start-up phase. This would include preparatory work for the administrative and support activities, as well as information activities.

D. Draft budget of the International Seabed Authority for 1996

21. Under the circumstances, the most realistic projection is that the Secretary-General of the Authority would be elected, at the earliest, in March 1996 and would enter on duty together with part of the start-up staff in April 1996. He would then continue the organizational work with the full contingent of 23 start-up staff as from June 1996. In the meantime, the interim secretariat would initiate some of the preparatory work so that the organizational matters can be dealt with efficiently in the start-up phase. In the present report, the recommendations of the Preparatory Commission have been considered as guidelines and the programme of work for 1996 and its corresponding resource requirements have been adjusted taking these circumstances into account.

22. The Assembly of the Authority and the President of the Assembly also provided guidelines for the preparation of the budget. Attention was drawn to the need to include the costs of the 1996 sessions of the Assembly and the cost of providing, through the facilities and staff of the Kingston Office for the Law of the Sea, interim secretariat services for the Authority for the period from January 1996 until the entry on duty of the Secretary-General of the Authority.

23. The United Nations Secretariat has been requested by the President of the Authority to provide for two sessions of the Authority in 1996, as follows:

(a) The first session is to be held from 11 March 1996 for up to three weeks, if necessary, principally for the purpose of electing the Council and the Secretary-General and establishing the Finance Committee;

(b) The second session is to be held for up to two weeks from 5 August 1996, primarily for the Finance Committee, the Council and the Assembly to consider and decide on the budget and to establish the Legal and Technical Commission. During this session, the Assembly and the Council, as far as practicable, will also consider the other items on their agenda.

24. The Assembly of the Authority has already adopted its agenda and completed consideration of some of the items. The remaining items will be included in its programme of work for 1996. The draft agenda of the Council is expected to be considered in 1996. The agenda of the Finance Committee and of the Legal and Technical Commission have not yet been prepared, but can be projected from the provisions of section 9 of the annex to the Agreement, and articles 164 and 165 of the Convention, respectively, and from the agenda of the Assembly and the Council. The programme of work of the secretariat of the Authority would arise from the programmes of work of the four organs of the Authority. In addition,

during the start-up period, a number of institutional and administrative matters have to be put in place by the secretariat.

25. The total budget relating to the Authority in 1996 amounts to $2,656,800 and consists of $1,318,900 for conference servicing expenses and $1,337,900 for expenses of the secretariat. Unless otherwise indicated, in most cases, resource estimates were patterned after the practical and budgetary experiences undergone by the Kingston Office of the Law of the Sea.

1. Conference servicing

26. On the basis of the assumptions about the work programme with regard to conference servicing of the Assembly of the Authority, set out in table 1, the full cost of conference servicing in 1996 is estimated at $1,318,900. (For details of the sessions, see para. 23 above.) These costs will be met from the resources to be appropriated under section 26E of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997 (see para. 14 above).

Table 1

Work programme with regard to conference servicing of the Authority during 1996

Organ	Number of sessions	Total duration of sessions	Number of meetings each working day	Number of official languages per session	Pages of documentation
Assembly	2	4 weeks	2	6	250
Council	2	3 weeks	2	6	320
Finance Committee	1	2 weeks	2	1	150

2. The secretariat

27. In summary, the administrative expenses of the secretariat of the Authority in 1996 are estimated to be $1,337,900, as shown in table 2.

Table 2

Estimated administrative expenses of the International Seabed Authority in 1996

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Object of expenditure	
Established posts	469.8
Temporary assistance for meetings	50.4
General temporary assistance	54.4
Consultants	20.0
Overtime	6.8
Common staff costs	198.7
Representation allowance	4.6
Travel of staff to official meetings	41.1
Other official travel	23.6
External printing and binding	5.0
Rental and maintenance of premises	280.2
Rental and maintenance of furniture and equipment	30.0
Local transportation	18.0
Communications	38.8
Official functions	4.2
Freight	25.2
Miscellaneous services	3.6
Supplies and materials	22.3
Acquisition of furniture and equipment	41.2
Total	1 337.9

Posts

28. For the period from 1 January to 31 March 1996, staffing resources are estimated at the same number and level as those of the Kingston Office for the Law of the Sea, i.e., 1 P-5, 2 P-2 and 11 Local Level staff. It is expected that during the period from 1 April to 31 May 1996 the Secretary-General of the Authority will enter on duty, together with a Legal Officer at the P-5 level, who would assist the Secretary-General in legal matters, especially with regard to the Headquarters Agreement, the Protocol on Privileges and Immunities and the Relationship Agreement. Furthermore, it is assumed that 2 General Service (Local level) staff would also enter on duty as personal assistant and secretary, respectively, to the Secretary-General. During this period, the Secretary-General would also have at his disposal the staff of the interim secretariat. Thereafter, the post requirements would be a contingent of 23 staff as recommended by the Preparatory Commission for the purpose of carrying out the start-up activities. Staff requirements are 1 USG, 1 D-2, 2 P-5, 2 P-2 and 17 Local Level staff and their functions were laid down as follows:

1 USG Secretary-General

Chief Administrative Officer of the Authority

1 D-2 Deputy to the Secretary-General

Secretary to the Assembly;

General oversight of conference preparation;

Oversight of the preparation of documents;

Support for the Secretary-General;

Interim Director-General of the Enterprise, the mining arm of the Authority.

1 P-5 Administrative and Finance Officer

Secretary to the Finance Committee;

Oversight of general administration, financial administration, salary and superannuation matters;

Supervision of the Personnel Officer and General Service staff other than those supervised by the other Officers.

1 P-5 Legal Officer

Secretary to the Council;

Assistance to the Council and the Assembly on the completion of the Headquarters Agreement, the Relationship Agreement and the Protocol on Privileges and Immunities (on the basis of existing drafts);

Advice on employment contracts;

Supervision of the resolution II and rules, regulations and procedures Officer.

1 P-2 Resolution II and rules, regulations and procedures Officer

Assistance to the Council in the preparation of documentation relating to the implementation of resolution II, rules, regulations and procedures necessary for the conduct of activities in international seabed area as they progress (based on existing drafts) and applications for approval of plans of work, if any.

1 P-2 Personnel Officer

General staff matters, recruitment, office and travel administration.

1 G-S Personal assistant to the Secretary-General

1 G-S Secretary to the Secretary-General

1 G-S Research assistant to the Deputy to the Secretary-General

1 G-S Secretary to the Deputy to the Secretary-General

1 G-S Secretary to the Administrative and Finance Officer

2 G-S Administrative assistants to the Administrative and Finance Officer

1 G-S Secretary to the Legal Officer

1 G-S Research assistant to the Resolution II and rules, regulations and procedures Officer

1 G-S Administrative assistant to the Personnel Officer

1 G-S Data and information assistant

1 G-S Administrative assistant

1 G-S Receptionist

1 G-S Driver

1 G-S Manual worker/back-up driver

2 G-S Security Officers.

29. It is also assumed that the staff of the secretariat will be remunerated according to the common system of the United Nations system of organizations.

Temporary assistance for meetings

30. The estimated requirements of $50,400 relate to the performance of a whole range of additional services which include secretarial assistance, services of documents clerks, mimeograph and photocopy machine operators, messengers, manual workers, sound recording assistants and security guard services for the purpose of providing support to the conference servicing personnel.

General temporary assistance

31. The provision of $54,400 is required to provide support services at the general service level such as those of additional secretaries, administrative assistants, research assistants, data and information assistants, library assistants and messengers. The substantive and administrative servicing of the August 1996 session of the Authority would be provided by the secretariat of the Authority with support from the United Nations Secretariat. However, the staff of the secretariat of the Authority may require assistance to familiarize themselves with the planning and preparatory process for meeting servicing. This requirement will be met by temporary assistance at the professional level for three months.

Consultants

32. The provision of $20,000 is required to put in place the various systems of internal administration and the information system. Certain types and levels of expertise would not be available in-house, necessitating the recruitment of expertise from external sources.

Overtime

33. Overtime requirements of $6,800 relate to secretarial and other types of assistance during peak workload periods, especially during meetings, and to the implementation of administrative arrangements.

Travel of staff to official meetings

34. The resources of $41,100 relate to travel of substantive personnel from the Office of Legal Affairs and a sound technician from Support Services, who may be required to reinforce the staff of the Authority to service the meetings of the organs of the Authority.

Other official travel

35. The estimated requirements of $23,600 relate to travel of the Secretary-General of the Authority, his Deputy, the Administrative and Finance Officer, the Legal Officer and other officers to United Nations Headquarters to initiate and implement various arrangements to be made during the organizational phase, as well as for consultations with other organizations.

External printing and binding

36. The estimated requirements of $5,000 relate to the publication in 1996 of two brochures, one on the Authority itself and the other on the status of seabed mining.

Rental and maintenance of premises (including utilities)

37. The provision of $280,200 relates to rental of office premises and conference facilities at Kingston, and is based on the assumption that the terms and conditions would be the same as those prevailing in 1994 and 1995 for the

Kingston Office for the Law of the Sea, pending the completion of the Agreement between the Authority and the Government of Jamaica.

Rental and maintenance of furniture and equipment

38. The provision of $30,000 relates to rental and maintenance of furniture and equipment, especially large reproduction equipment required during the meetings for producing multiple copies of documents.

Local transportation

39. The provision of $18,000 relates to rental of vehicles in connection with the servicing of the meetings of the organs of the Authority.

Communications

40. The estimated requirements of $38,800 relate to communication requirements and to increased needs arising in relation to servicing the meetings of the organs of the Authority. In particular, communication with United Nations Headquarters would be essential with regard to the organizational work of the secretariat of the Authority, and meeting arrangements. Increased communication requirements are projected bearing in mind the special needs of the secretariat during its organizational phase, particularly in contacting officials in capitals of various member States as well as officials in headquarters of international organizations.

Official functions

41. An estimate of $4,200 is provided for official functions.

Freight

42. The estimated freight requirements of $25,200 relate to shipment of equipment and documents to the meetings of the organs of the Authority.

Miscellaneous services

43. The estimated requirement of $3,600 relate to general insurance and bank charges.

Supplies and materials

44. The provision of $22,300 relates to purchases of stationery and other office supplies and library books and journals for the Authority's library and reference collection.

Acquisition of furniture and equipment

45. The provision of $41,200 includes $31,200 relating to purchases of computer equipment and the replacement of a vehicle, and a non-recurring expenditure of $10,000 to cover any contingencies or unforeseen requirements. At the outset, as the institution commences functioning, despite the transfer of furniture and

equipment from the Kingston Office for the Law of the Sea to the Authority, certain additional office equipment and furniture would need to be purchased. Possible items falling under this category include electronic data-processing equipment and furniture for the offices and the library. One of the two vehicles to be transferred from the Kingston Office to the Authority is more than six years old.

E. Action required by the General Assembly

46. The programme budget for 1994-1995 included an appropriation of $776,000 for the initial administrative expenses of the Authority in 1995. In the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997, the 1994-1995 appropriation was retained in the resource base for 1996-1997, pending submission of the budget of the Authority to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session. The budget of the Authority for administrative expenses amounts to $1,337,900. Consequently, an additional appropriation of $561,900 would be required under section 33.

47. As indicated in paragraph 7 of the statement of programme budget implications submitted in connection with the adoption of resolution 48/263 (A/C.5/48/80), the Secretary-General intends to transmit to the General Assembly on an annual basis the budget of the Authority as agreed by its Assembly. It remains his view that such expenses should be treated outside the procedures related to the outline and to the contingency fund.

UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/C.5/50/29
16 November 1995

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fiftieth session
FIFTH COMMITTEE
Agenda item 121

UNITED NATIONS COMMON SYSTEM

Note by the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General has the honour to transmit herewith, for consideration by the General Assembly, a statement adopted by the Administrative Committee on Coordination at its second regular session of 1995.

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ANNEX

Statement by the Administrative Committee on Coordination

The Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) is gravely concerned by the increase in attacks on the staff of the United Nations, its programmes, funds and specialized agencies which, over the past three years alone, have led to the death of over 100 staff members working in humanitarian emergencies and development activities.

ACC notes that the personnel of the United Nations, its programmes, funds and specialized agencies are increasingly called upon to work in high risk, insecure situations, and calls for the adoption of effective and comprehensive measures to enhance the security of personnel.

To this end, ACC calls upon all Governments to take all possible measures to ensure the safety of United Nations staff. In this respect, ACC welcomes the commitment made by the Security Council on 26 September 1995, in connection with the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations, to continue to attach the utmost importance to the issue of staff security (see S/PRST/1995/48).

ACC also welcomes the adoption by the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session of the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel (resolution 49/59 of 9 December 1994), and encourages those Governments which have not yet done so to ratify the Convention. ACC regrets that the drafters of the Convention were not able to take into account the observations made by ACC in a previous statement regarding the limited application of the Convention. ACC therefore trusts that the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat will study the Convention with a view to proposing measures that would ensure the extension of its coverage automatically and equally to all United Nations and associated staff working in unsafe or potentially insecure situations.

ACC notes the progress that has been made in coordination with the Office of the United Nations Security Coordinator by the United Nations, its programmes, funds and specialized agencies, on measures such as the development of security training, stress management and communications systems which can reduce the risk to which personnel are exposed. ACC encourages its members to prioritize such measures and, where possible, to share and combine resources and experience in this area.

ACC, while deeply concerned by the financial crisis affecting the United Nations, insists that projects relating to the safety and security of staff be excluded from any budgetary restrictions resulting from the crisis.

ACC requests its Chairman to bring this matter to the attention of Member States, and decides to review progress on these recommendations at its next session.